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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/965,002	09/27/2001	Sanaa F. Abdelhadi	AUS920010905US1	2728

7590  
08/12/2005  
Mr. Volel Emile  
P.O. Box 202170  
Austin, TX 78720-2170

EXAMINER

MEUCCI, MICHAEL D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2142

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/965,002

Applicant(s)

ABDELHADI ET AL.

Examiner

Michael D. Meucci

Art Unit

2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 May 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 September 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This application has been reassigned to Michael D. Meucci (AU 2142).
2. This action is in response to request for reconsideration filed 09 May 2005.

***Response to Amendment***

3. Examiner acknowledges amendments made to the specification to overcome objections to the specification. These objections have been withdrawn.
4. Examiner acknowledges amendments made to the specification to overcome objections to the drawings. These objections have been withdrawn.
5. Examiner acknowledges amendments made to the claims to overcome objections to the claims. These objections have been withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joyce in view of Ahmed.

Joyce discloses a method of displaying the operating states of various machines on a network in response to a message command. The method includes displaying when each machine, identified by machine name (p. 133, line 43; fig. 7), is waiting (p. 133, line 44), receiving (p. 134, line 2-3), and finished (p. 134, line 5). When the status of each machine changes, the display is changed to reflect the new status (p. 133, line 41 through p. 134, line 6). Joyce also discloses that a machine whose message command has failed is recognized (p. 138, lines 6-7).

Ahmed teaches that it is known to display information concerning operations of a networked system in a plurality of windows (col. 1, lines 44-48).

Joyce and Ahmed are analogous art because they are both from the same field of endeavor of the display of operations of networked systems.

At the time of invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Joyce's method by placing the machine name icons into separate windows based on their current state of waiting, receiving, or finished. It would also have been obvious to include a "failed" window to reflect the existence of a machine that belongs in the category of having a message command that has failed, as detected by Joyce's method. It logically follows that if a machine has finished, but has not failed, it should be grouped in a window separately as such. Joyce discloses changing the display to reflect a change in status, therefore it would logically follow that when combined with Ahmed, the icons would move from one state window to another when the associated machine's state changes.

The motivation for these modifications would have been to provide a more organized display of which machines are in which states, rather than having to look at un-grouped icons that are spread around the display screen, as with Joyce's original method.

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Ahmed with Joyce for the benefit of organization to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1-8.

8. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joyce in view of Ahmed as applied to claims 1-8 above, and further in view of Kimura.

Joyce and Ahmed do not expressly disclose that the names of the computer systems are displayed in red in the "failed" subwindow.

Kimura teaches that a color such as red can be used to denote an error condition in a display (col. 9, lines 56-60).

Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura are all analogous art because they are all from the same field of endeavor of monitoring systems.

At the time of invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the color red to display the machines experiencing error conditions.

The motivation for doing so would have been to provide a mechanism of communicating a warning to the operator (col. 9, line 60).

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Kimura with Joyce and Ahmed for the benefit of communicating a warning to obtain the invention as specified in claim 9.

9. Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joyce in view of Ahmed, in further view of Kimura as applied to claim 9 above, and further in view of Darland.

With respect to claim 10, Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura do not expressly disclose that when the displayed name of a computer system is selected further information about the status of the command executing on the computer system is displayed.

Darland teaches that additional operating information about an item can be obtained by selecting that item (col. 11, lines 11-12; 18-22).

Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland are all analogous art because they are all from the same field of endeavor of monitoring systems.

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura's method by allowing additional information about the operation of the command to be displayed when a user selects Joyce's machine icon, as taught by Darland.

The motivation for doing so would have been to provide the user with information about the effectiveness of the system (col. 1, lines 5-7).

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Darland with Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura for the benefit of providing additional information to the user to obtain the invention as specified in claim 10.

With respect to claim 11, Kimura further discloses that when an error condition occurs, an error code and an error message can be displayed (col. 10, lines 9-18).

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to further modify Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland's method by allowing an error message to be displayed as part of the additional operating information when a failed machine icon is selected.

The motivation for doing so would have been to provide the user with information to help diagnose a failure in the system.

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland for the benefit of providing additional information to the user to obtain the invention as specified in claim 11.

With respect to claim 12, Darland further discloses that the additional operating information obtained by selecting the item can include a real-time progress indicator (col. 11, lines 2, 24-26).

At the time of invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to further modify Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland's method by allowing a real-time progress indicator to be displayed as part of the additional operating information when a receiving machine is selected.

The motivation for doing so would have been to allow the user to view the progress of the receiving operation.

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland for the benefit of providing additional information to the user to obtain the invention as specified in claim 12.

10. Claims 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joyce in view of Ahmed.

Joyce discloses a computer program product on a computer readable medium for displaying the operating states of various machines on a network in response to a message command. The product includes displaying when each machine, identified by machine name (p. 133, line 43; fig. 7), is waiting (p. 133, line 44), receiving (p. 134, line 2-3), and finished (p. 134, line 5). When the status of each machine changes, the display is changed to reflect the new status (p. 133, line 41- p. 134, line 6). Joyce also discloses that a machine whose message command has failed is recognized (p. 138, lines 6-7).

Ahmed teaches that it is known to display information concerning operations of a networked system in a plurality of windows (col. 1, lines 44-48).

Joyce and Ahmed are analogous art because they are both from the same field of endeavor of the display of operations of networked systems.

At the time of invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Joyce's product by placing the machine name icons into separate windows based on their current state of waiting, receiving, or finished. It would also have been obvious to include a "failed" window to reflect the existence of a machine that belongs in the category of having a message command that has failed, as detected by Joyce's method. It logically follows that if a machine has finished, but has not failed, it should be grouped in a window separately as such. Joyce discloses changing the display to reflect a change in status, therefore it would logically follow that when combined with



Ahmed, the icons would move from one state window to another when the associated machine's state changes.

The motivation for these modifications would have been to provide a more organized display of which machines are in which states, rather than having to look at un-grouped icons that are spread around the display screen, as with Joyce's original method.

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Ahmed with Joyce for the benefit of organization to obtain the invention as specified in claims 13-20.

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joyce in view of Ahmed as applied to claims 13-20 above, and further in view of Kimura.

Joyce and Ahmed do not expressly disclose that the names of the computer systems are displayed in red in the "failed" subwindow.

Kimura teaches that a color such as red can be used to denote an error condition in a display (col. 9, lines 56-60).

Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura are all analogous art because they are all from the same field of endeavor of monitoring systems.

At the time of invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the color red to display the machines experiencing error conditions.

The motivation for doing so would have been to provide a mechanism of communicating a warning to the operator (col. 9, line 60).

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Kimura with Joyce and Ahmed for the benefit of communicating a warning to obtain the invention as specified in claim 21.

11. Claims 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joyce in view of Ahmed, in further view of Kimura as applied to claim 21 above, and further in view of Darland.

With respect to claim 22, Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura do not expressly disclose that when the displayed name of a computer system is selected further information about the status of the command executing on the computer system is displayed.

Darland teaches that additional operating information about an item can be obtained by selecting that item (col. 11, lines 11-12; 18-22).

Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland are all analogous art because they are all from the same field of endeavor of monitoring systems.

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura's product by allowing additional information about the operation of the command to be displayed when a user selects Joyce's machine icon, as taught by Darland.

The motivation for doing so would have been to provide the user with information about the effectiveness of the system (col. 1, lines 5-7).

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Darland with Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura for the benefit of providing additional information to the user to obtain the invention as specified in claim 22.

With respect to claim 23, Kimura further discloses that when an error condition occurs, an error code and an error message can be displayed (col. 10, lines 9-18).

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to further modify Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland's product by allowing an error message to be displayed as part of the additional operating information when a failed machine icon is selected.

The motivation for doing so would have been to provide the user with information to help diagnose a failure in the system.

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland for the benefit of providing additional information to the user to obtain the invention as specified in claim 23.

With respect to claim 24, Darland further discloses that the additional operating information obtained by selecting the item can include a real-time progress indicator (col. 11, lines 2, 24-26).

At the time of invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to further modify Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland's product by allowing a real-time progress indicator to be displayed as part of the additional operating information when a receiving machine is selected.

The motivation for doing so would have been to allow the user to view the progress of the receiving operation.

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland for the benefit of providing additional information to the user to obtain the invention as specified in claim 24.

12. Claims 25-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joyce in view of Ahmed.

Joyce discloses an apparatus of displaying the operating states of various machines on a network in response to a message command. The apparatus includes displaying when each machine, identified by machine name (p. 133, line 43; fig. 7), is waiting (p. 133, line 44), receiving (p. 134, line 2-3), and finished (p. 134, line 5). When the status of each machine changes, the display is changed to reflect the new status (p. 133, line 41- p. 134, line 6). Joyce also discloses that a machine whose message command has failed is recognized (p. 138, lines 6-7).

Ahmed teaches that it is known to display information concerning operations of a networked system in a plurality of windows (col. 1, lines 44-48).

Joyce and Ahmed are analogous art because they are both from the same field of endeavor of the display of operations of networked systems.

At the time of invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Joyce's apparatus by placing the machine name icons into separate windows based on their current state of waiting, receiving, or finished. It would also have been obvious to include a "failed" window to reflect the existence of a machine that belongs in the category of having a message command that has failed, as detected by

Joyce's method. It logically follows that if a machine has finished, but has not failed, it should be grouped in a window separately as such. Joyce discloses changing the display to reflect a change in status, therefore it would logically follow that when combined with Ahmed, the icons would move from one state window to another when the associated machine's state changes.

The motivation for these modifications would have been to provide a more organized display of which machines are in which states, rather than having to look at un-grouped icons that are spread around the display screen, as with Joyce's original method.

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Ahmed with Joyce for the benefit of organization to obtain the invention as specified in claims 25-32.

13. Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joyce in view of Ahmed as applied to claims 25-32 above, and further in view of Kimura.

Joyce and Ahmed do not expressly disclose that the names of the computer systems are displayed in red in the "failed" subwindow.

Kimura teaches that a color such as red can be used to denote an error condition in a display (col. 9, lines 56-60).

Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura are all analogous art because they are all from the same field of endeavor of monitoring systems.

At the time of invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the color red to display the machines experiencing error conditions.

The motivation for doing so would have been to provide a mechanism of communicating a warning to the operator (col. 9, line 60).

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Kimura with Joyce and Ahmed for the benefit of communicating a warning to obtain the invention as specified in claim 33.

14. Claims 34-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joyce in view of Ahmed, in further view of Kimura as applied to claim 33 above, and further in view of Darland.

With respect to claim 34, Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura do not expressly disclose that when the displayed name of a computer system is selected further information about the status of the command executing on the computer system is displayed.

Darland teaches that additional operating information about an item can be obtained by selecting that item (col. 11, lines 11-12; 18-22).

Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland are all analogous art because they are all from the same field of endeavor of monitoring systems.

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura's apparatus by allowing additional information about the operation of the command to be displayed when a user selects Joyce's machine icon, as taught by Darland.

The motivation for doing so would have been to provide the user with information about the effectiveness of the system (col. 1, lines 5-7).

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Darland with Joyce, Ahmed, and Kimura for the benefit of providing additional information to the user to obtain the invention as specified in claim 34.

With respect to claim 35, Kimura further discloses that when an error condition occurs, an error code and an error message can be displayed (col. 10, lines 9-18).

At the time of invention, it would have been obvious to further modify Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland's apparatus by allowing an error message to be displayed as part of the additional operating information when a failed machine icon is selected.

The motivation for doing so would have been to provide the user with information to help diagnose a failure in the system.

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland for the benefit of providing additional information to the user to obtain the invention as specified in claim 35.

With respect to claim 36, Darland further discloses that the additional operating information obtained by selecting the item can include a real-time progress indicator (col. 11, lines 2, 24-26).

At the time of invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to further modify Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland's apparatus by allowing a real-time progress indicator to be displayed as part of the additional operating information when a receiving machine is selected.

The motivation for doing so would have been to allow the user to view the progress of the receiving operation.

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Joyce, Ahmed, Kimura, and Darland for the benefit of providing additional information to the user to obtain the invention as specified in claim 36.

15. Claim 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joyce in view of Ahmed.

With respect to claim 37, Joyce discloses enabling a user to enter the command in a common interface, the command being either a request to start execution of another command or to stop execution of the other command, the common interface translating the command into the different command structures and enabling a user to send the command to the plurality of the computer systems (paragraph 3 of section 2.1 on page 125), enabling a user to indicate whether or not the execution of the command is to be monitored (paragraph 1 of section 2.3 on pages 126-127 and Fig. 3), and displaying the status of the execution of the command on each of the computer systems within a proper sub-window (p. 133, line 41 through p. 134, line 6).

Ahmed teaches that it is known to display, if the execution of the command is to be monitored, a dialog window that is divided into a waiting, working, successful and failed sub-windows for displaying present status of the execution of the command on each of the computer systems executing the command (col. 1, lines 44-48).

Joyce and Ahmed are analogous art because they are both from the same field of endeavor of the display of operations of networked systems.



At the time of invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Joyce's method by placing the machine name icons into separate windows based on their current state of waiting, receiving, or finished. Joyce discloses changing the display to reflect a change in status, therefore it would logically follow that when combined with Ahmed, the icons would move from one state window to another when the associated machine's state changes.

The motivation for these modifications would have been to provide a more organized display of which machines are in which states, rather than having to look at un-grouped icons that are spread around the display screen, as with Joyce's original method.

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Ahmed with Joyce for the benefit of organization to obtain the invention as specified in claim 37.

### ***Response to Arguments***

16. Applicant's arguments filed 09 May 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

17. (A) Applicant states that Joyce has no reason to display a dialog window that is divided into sub-windows wherein the execution of the command on each of the computer systems is to be displayed. The examiner respectfully disagrees.

As to point (A), the applicant argues that the command would have been sent to only one computer system on that network and not to a plurality of the computer

systems. However, the examiner would like to point to Fig. 8 on page 135 depicting a distributed system and paragraph 3 of section 3.3 on pages 135-136. The system clearly shows multiple commands being sent and monitored through the system corresponding to Fig. 6 on page 132. Although the *same* command is not broadcast from a *single* terminal in Joyce, the system or methodology is not structurally or functionally different from the claimed invention. As such, the claimed invention broadcasting a single command to multiple terminals is no different in nature than Joyce sending multiple commands between multiple terminals because a single terminal is still able to monitor the entire system.

### ***Conclusion***

18. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Brown et al. (U.S. 5,226,120) discloses monitoring the status of a LAN.

Kirkham (U.S. 5,341,372) discloses control and monitoring functions in networks.

Marvit et al. (U.S. 5,457,689) discloses high speed polling in multi-node network.

Meier et al. (U.S. 5,794,046) discloses system for debugging parallel and distributed applications.

McLain et al. (U.S. 5,974,532) discloses generating responses for inputs using a hybrid state engine table.

Davis et al. (U.S. 6,282,712 B1) discloses automatic software installation on networked systems.

Wygodny et al. (U.S. 6,282,701 B1) discloses monitoring and analyzing the execution of computer programs.

Carney et al. (U.S. 6,453,268 B1) discloses system for monitoring a device with a computer using user selected monitoring settings.

Koontz et al. (U.S. 2002/0073189 A1) discloses remote system management.

Murphy et al. (U.S. 2003/0040897 A1) discloses interface for power management control systems.

19. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

20. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Meucci at (571) 272-3892. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell, can be reached at (571) 272-3868. The fax phone number for this Group is 571-273-8300.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [michael.meucci@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
BEATRIZ PRIETO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER